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## Urgent Decisions Committee

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**MINUTES** of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT on Wednesday, 22 May 2024 from 6.30 pm - 6.38 pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mike Baldock (Vice-Chair), Lloyd Bowen, Charles Gibson (Substitute for Councillor Hannah Perkin), Tim Gibson (Chair), James Hunt and Richard Palmer (Substitute for Councillor Elliott Jayes).

**PRESENT (VIRTUALLY):** Councillor Elliott Jayes.

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Philippa Davies and Natalie Earl.

**OFFICERS PRESENT (VIRTUALLY):** Larissa Reed.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (VIRTUALLY):** Councillor James Hall.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Angela Harrison, Elliott Jayes and Hannah Perkin.

### 41 **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

The Chair outlined the emergency evacuation procedure.

### 42 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Charles Gibson declared a Disclosable Non-Pecuniary Interest in respect of the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan (FNP) as he was a member of Faversham Town Council and the matter had been discussed at their meetings.

### 43 **Faversham Neighbourhood Plan - Receipt of Examiner's Report**

The Interim Joint Planning Manager (Policy) introduced the report as set out in the agenda papers. She explained the reason why the FNP was being considered at this meeting, as set out in Paragraph 1.3 in the report. The Interim Joint Planning Manager referred Members to Appendix I in the report which set out the draft list of the Examiner's Recommended Modifications and Responses, and Appendix II which set out the working draft tracked changes version of the FNP.

The Chair invited Members to ask questions.

A Member asked whether the upcoming General Election on 4 July 2024 (announced on 22 May 2024) would have any bearing on the timeline of the FNP and whether the referendum could be held on the same day as the election. In response, the Interim Joint Planning Manager explained that if the recommendations in the report were agreed, the decision statement would then need to be advertised for six weeks, before the referendum could take place. As such, the General Election and referendum could not be held on the same day. The Chief Executive confirmed that this was the case and that the timelines did not align with each other.

Members welcomed the report and congratulated the FNP team on the work they had carried out so far.

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the Examiner's Report into the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan be noted.**
- (2) That the proposed alterations to the Examiner's proposed modifications as set out in Appendix I of the report be noted.**
- (3) That the Faversham Neighbourhood Plan proceeds to the referendum stage after a six-week consultation on the Decision Statement.**

Chair

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All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel